

REMARKS

Claims 12-45 are now pending. Claims 44 and 45 have been added to provide Applicants with a more complete scope of protection.

In the Office Action dated September 6, 2005, Claims 41-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants understand in view of the statement relating thereto in the Advisory Action dated December 20, 2005 that this rejection is now withdrawn.

Various other rejections also were set forth in the Office Action dated September 6, 2005, as described in the Remarks section of the Amendments filed on June 30, 2005 and December 6, 2005. For the sake of convenience, those rejections are not repeated again herein. Suffice it to say that it is strongly believed that the presently pending claims are patentable over the art relied on in the September 6, 2005 Office Action for the reasons set forth in the Remarks section of the Amendments filed on June 30, 2005 and December 6, 2005. Those reasons are repeated and incorporated by reference herein.

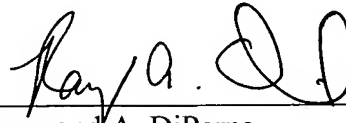
Added Claims 44 and 45 correspond in many respects to Claims 33 and 34, respectively, except that Claims 44 and 45 recite at least some additional features. Support for those added claims appears in the specification as originally filed. For at least certain ones of the additional features, see, for example, at least page 36, lines 3-12 (“an image display apparatus”), page 45, lines 11-21 (“introducing hydrogen gas into the vessel” and “in an atmosphere containing hydrogen gas”), and page 12 (“introducing a carbon compound gas into the vessel”).

It is respectfully requested that Claims 44 and 45 are patentable over the art relied on in the September 6, 2005 Office Action for the same reasons as those set forth with respect to Claims 33 and 34, respectively, in the Remarks section of the Amendments filed June 30, 2005 and December 6, 2005.

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' attorney of record may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray A. DiPerna", is written over a horizontal line.

Raymond A. DiPerna
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,063

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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